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3 A method for retaining a treatment chemical in a subterranean formation
4 containing hydrocarbons is disclosed. The method includes first preparing an
5 emulsion. The emulsion contains an oil continuous phase and first and
6 second aqueous phases. The first aqueous phase includes a treatment
7 chemical, such as a scale inhibitor. The second aqueous phase comprises a
8 retention enhancing chemical which is to be reacted with the treatment
9 chemical in the subterranean formation. Preferably, the first and second
10 aqueous phases remain generally separately dispersed and stable within the
11 oil continuous phase prior to being introduced into the subterranean
12 formation. The emulsion is then placed down a well bore and into the
13 subterranean formation. The first and second aqueous phases then interact
14 with one another in the subterranean formation such that the treatment
15 chemical and the retention enhancing chemical react with one another
16 resulting in the treatment chemical being retained in the subterranean
17 formation at a greater efficiency than had the second aqueous phase,
18 including the retention enhancing chemical, not been used.